*“The George Washington Administration”*

By Kaleb Johnson

George Washington was the nation’s first president. Washington was a man of many talents. He was an amazing dancer and he also aspired in designing uniforms. This man served his country well on the battlefield and during his administration. Although he was faced with early challenges, he had many accomplishments.

George Washington was the only president to be elected unanimously. Many people believed that because his decision helped them win the Revolutionary War; his decisions would also make him an admirable president of the United States.

On April 30, 1789, George Washington was inaugurated in New York City as the Nation’s first president. With a president as a high officer, many people thought it was close to being king-like, luckily Washington was well trusted.

In the summer of 1789, Congress set up three departments and George Washington had to elect the heads of them. He elected Thomas Jefferson as the head of Secretary of State, Alexander Hamilton as the head of The Treasury, and Henry Knox as head of the Secretary of War. Because of Washington’s regular meetings with these heads, they established a cabinet.

Washington faced many challenges at the start of his Presidential career. First of all, there had been no precedents set, therefore there weren’t any guidelines set. While George Washington was setting precedents, France and Britain were waging war, and Washington had to choose sides. There were people who wanted the President of America to side with France since they helped America win the Revolutionary War. On the other hand there people who wanted America to take Britain’s side because they relied on Britain for trade. The Whiskey Rebellion was also a burden because farmers were opposed to the whiskey taxes. Those farmers formed small armies and started to attack. Luckily George was able to put together his own army and stop the rampaging farmers. In Washington’s perspective, “…if citizens wished to change the law, they must do so peacefully, through constitutional means.”Since Native Americans wanted all settlers north of the Ohio River to leave, conflict soon arose to the Battle of Fallen Timbers. In this battle over 1,000 Native Americans perished under Shawnee Chief Blue Jacket by Washington’s army led by Anthony Wayne. Luckily a year later the Treaty of Greenville was established and the Native Americans surrendered most of the land in present-day Ohio.

Although he was faced with these challenges, President Washington was still able to produce accomplishments. One of the greatest accomplishments Washington made was electing Alexander Hamilton as Secretary of the Treasury. Since Hamilton was able to swiftly eliminate all foreign debt, America was able to have allies and show other countries they were trustworthy.

Once Washington entered office no precedents were present; when he left there were precedents for future presidents. Another example of a precedent he set was making people address him as Mr. President instead of Your-Highness or other titles that you would use to address a king or someone of royalty. President Washington set one of the greatest precedents that is still followed today… only simply leaving. Once President Washington served two terms, he retired to his house a family in Mt. Vernon.

Washington was also well known for his famous farewell address. In this speech Washington heaved warnings to splitting into two political parties. He also warns people about religion and morality. Also, Washington really stressed the fact that America should not ever have permanent foreign allies.